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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/339,826	06/25/1999	MASUHIRO NATSUHARA	50395-028	3109

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER

GROUP, KARL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1755

DATE MAILED: 11/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of the application.

Commissioner of Patents.


1. Pursuant to the Remand under 37 CFR 1.193(b)(1) by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on 9-26-02, a supplemental Examiner's Answer is set forth below:

a. A translation of Japanese document No. 08-157265 cited by the Japanese applicant is supplied. Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by, or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as obvious over Japanese Document 08-157265. The Japanese document teaches an aluminum nitride body (Page 1 line 1-8 of the MEANS portion of the document) including a sintering agent (page 2, lines 3-5 of the MEANS portion). The aluminum nitride substrate is sintered with layers of boron nitride (page 1, lines 9-14 of the MEANS portion). The aluminum nitride body has a surface roughness of 2-5 microns-Rmax, (See Detailed Description page 5, lines 1-6 as well as the Rmax values set forth in Table 1 of the same page). This surface roughness is not unlike the values set forth by applicants in Table 1, page 18 of the disclosure.

1. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karl Group whose telephone number is (703)308-3821. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Bell, can be reached on (703)308-3823. The fax phone number for this Group is (703)872-9310, for any non-final amendment or communication, and (703)872-9311 for any after-final amendment or communication.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0661.


KARL GROUP
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 1755

Keg
November 14, 2002